



Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

District No. 1 Commissioner: Lee Tischer

District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren, Chair

District No. 3 Commissioner: Mark Letham

MINUTES

Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners

Regular Meeting

February 17, 2026

Chair Dan Cothren called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on February 17, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the third-floor public meeting room of the Wahkiakum County Courthouse located at 64 Main Street in Cathlamet, Washington.

Present: Chair Dan Cothren, Commissioner Mark Letham, Commissioner Lee Tischer, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson. Undersheriff Gary Howell, Emergency Technology Coordinator Beau Renfro, DEM Coordinator Austin Smith.

Flag Salute

Chair Dan Cothren led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Letham and Tischer approving the regular meeting agenda for February 17, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham approving the consent agenda for February 17, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026
- B. Resolution No. 28-26 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$3,688.00 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of claims related to legal fees regarding environmental litigation
- C. Resolution No. 29-26 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Electronic Communications Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$21,841.61
- D. Voucher Approval - \$ 188,915.81
- E. Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$7,000.00

Public Comment

A Puget Island resident commented on assessment procedures and the report of a collapsing culvert under the state roadway.

Dan Turner, Cathlamet Public Library, commented on library programs and events.

New Business

Museum Service Agreement with the Wahkiakum County Historical Society

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve of the Museum Service Agreement between Wahkiakum County and the Wahkiakum County Historical Society, that provides \$2,000 in funding in 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Chamber of Commerce 2026 Contract for Technical Assistance

This contract provides for an annual appropriation of up to \$20,000 and 100% of the revenue accrued in the County Tourism Development Fund in 2026.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve of the 2026 Annual Contract for Technical Assistance with the Wahkiakum County Chamber of Commerce. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Sheriff

Request for Proposals to Provide Spare Parts for the Emergency Radio Repeater System

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Letham and Tischer to approve of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for publication and for the cost for publication to be paid out of Fund 127, the Radio Communications Fund. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner Reports

The Board reported on their work over the past week. Commissioner Tischer discussed the status of the current state legislative session and the requirement to remove vegetation from the dikes on Puget Island. Commissioner Letham reported on the recent fair fundraiser, the county's Microsoft 365 migration project and that the Grays River Flood Control District will be working with the Prosecuting Attorney regarding the assessment questions. Commissioner Cothren discussed the Nelson Creek field tour with WSU and grant funding opportunities for the Community Forest.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Attest:


Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved:


Daniel L. Cothren
Chair of the Board